

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 18th June 1892.

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		Nil.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Ahmadí" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	600	
2	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura	.....
3	"Kaliyuga" ...	Calcutta	.....
4	"Kasipur Nivási" ...	Kasipur, Barisál	280	
5	"Navamihir" ...	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
6	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria	700	
<i>Tri-monthly.</i>				
7	"Hitakari" ...	Kushtia	800	13th June 1892.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
8	"Bangavási" ...	Calcutta	20,000	11th ditto.
9	"Banganivási" ...	Ditto	8,000	10th ditto.
10	"Burdwán Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan	335	7th ditto.
11	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	400	6th ditto.
12	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca	2,200	12th ditto.
13	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	825	10th ditto.
14	"Grámvási" ...	Ramkristopore, Howrah	1,000	13th ditto.
15	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi	212	8th ditto.
16	"Hitavádí" ...	Calcutta	.....
17	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Berhampore	.....
18	"Navayuga" ...	Calcutta	500	9th ditto.
19	"Prakriti" ...	Ditto	.....	11th ditto.
20	"Pratikár" ...	Berhampore	609	10th ditto.
21	"Prithivi" ...	Calcutta	.....
22	"Rangpur Dikprakásh" ...	Kakinia, Rangpur	.....
23	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	800-1,000	8th ditto.
24	"Sahayogi" ...	Barisál	342	
25	"Sakti" ...	Dacca	.....
26	"Samáj-o-Sáhitya" ...	Garibpore, Nadia	1,000	
27	"Samaya" ...	Calcutta	3,000	10th ditto.
28	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	4,000	11th ditto.
29	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	.....	10th ditto.
30	"Sáraswat Patra" ...	Dacca	300	11th ditto.
31	"Som Prakásh" ...	Calcutta	600	13th ditto.
32	"Srimanta Sadagar" ...	Ditto	.....
33	"Sudhákar" ...	Ditto	3,100	14th ditto.
34	"Sulabh Samáchar" ...	Ditto	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
35	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Calcutta	600	8th, 10th, 13th and 14th June 1892.
36	"Bengal Exchange Gazette" ...	Ditto	.....	13th to 16th June 1892.
37	"Dainik-o-Samáchar Chandriká" ...	Ditto	1,000	12th to 16th ditto.
38	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto	1,500	10th, 11th and 13th to 16th June 1892.
39	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	300	10th, 11th and 13th to 16th ditto.
40	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto	.....	11th, and 13th to 16th June 1892.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
41	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca	.....	13th June 1892.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Date of papers received and examined for the week.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
42	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samáchar Patrika."	Darjeeling	50	
43	"Kshatriya Patrika"	Patna	250	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Aryavarta"	Calcutta	750	
45	"Bihar Bandhu"	Bankipore	500	2nd June 1892.
46	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,200	2nd ditto.
47	"Champaran Chandrika"	Bettiah	350	
48	"Desi Vyapari"	Calcutta	.....
49	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Ditto	.....
50	"Sar Sudhanidhi"	Ditto	500	6th ditto.
51	"Uchit Bakti"	Ditto	4,500	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....
53	"Anis"	Patna	.....
54	"Calcutta Punch"	Calcutta	.....
55	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide"	Ditto	340	3rd and 10th June 1892.
56	"General and Gauharias"	Ditto	.....	6th June 1892.
57	"Mehre Monawar"	Muzaffarpur	.....
58	"Raisul-Akhbari-Murshidabad"	Murshidabad	150	
59	"Setare Hind"	Arrah	.....
60	"Shokh"	Monghyr	.....	21st May 1892.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
61	"Asha"	Cuttack	165	For April and May 1892.
62	"Echo"	Ditto	.....
63	"Pradip"	Ditto	.....
64	"Samyabadi"	Ditto	.....
65	"Taraka and Subhavarta"	Ditto	.....
66	"Utkalprana"	Mayurbhunj	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
67	"Dipaka"	Cuttack	.....	19th May 1892.
68	"Samvad Vahika"	Balasore	200	18th ditto.
69	"Uriya and Navasamvad"	Ditto	420	21st ditto.
70	"Utkal Dipika"	Cuttack	420	
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
71	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	480	
72	"Silchar"	Silchar	500	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
73	"Srihatta Mihir"	Sylhet	332	

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 13th June, complains of the prevalence of petty thefts at Malangapalli in the district of the 24-Parganas. The local police are unable to trace the thieves, and the thieves feel encouraged. There is hardly a *marai* (thatched hut for storing paddy) in the village from which paddy has not been stolen. It seems that these thefts are done by old badmashes. The authorities, as well as the influential people of the village, ought to be on their guard.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 13th, 1892.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

2. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 7th June, refers to the Radhanagar Hari Sankirtan case which was tried at Burdwan, and observes as follows:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 7th, 1892.

The acquittal of the defendants by the Deputy Magistrate who tried the case has given general satisfaction. The institution of this case led people to think that Hari Sankirtan parties were probably prohibited by Government. But the decision of the Deputy Magistrate has removed these misgivings, and they have come to see that the wish of the Police Saheb is not the same as the law of the land. Government has not the least desire to hurt the religious feelings of the people, nor are the laws framed by it bad. That troubles in this respect, nevertheless, happen from time to time, is owing to the faults of the Government's officers.

3. The same paper has the following on the character of the judicial service of the present day:—

The character of the present judicial service.

The character of the judicial service in this country has deteriorated. Young, inexperienced and characterless men are now appointed to that service. These men are more anxious to preserve the prestige of their office than to uphold the interests of justice. Their constant endeavour is to humour their superiors. Very few among them have *dharma pravritti* (desire to act in accordance with *dharma* and morality), while most of them are of very bad character, which they do not even take the trouble of hiding from the public. These men have no religion and no belief in a hereafter. One is afraid to see men of such character administer justice. That cases of gross failure of justice are now occurring is because the number of judicial officers of this stamp is increasing. Government is asked to be careful in selecting its judicial officers. Let no one who has not acquired experience in the affairs of the world, whose judgment is not matured or who does not fear religion or the next world, be appointed to administer justice.

4. The same paper has heard many complaints against the Burdwan treasury. The treasury people do not look, as they ought to do, to the convenience of the public.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

The Burdwan treasury. People coming to transact business at the treasury are often put to very great trouble and inconvenience.

5. The *Sahachar*, of the 8th June, has the following:—

SAHACHAR,
June 8th, 1892.

In the course of his Resolution on the Jail Administration Report for 1891, the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed himself surprised at the increase of the number of prisoners in the year under review. What is the cause of this increase?—asks the Lieutenant-Governor with evident marks of displeasure in his face. Has the detective ability of the police increased? The writer regrets to answer this question in the negative. The police has not improved in any way. It is unable to catch thieves and dacoits, but when thieves and dacoits are caught by others, it is never behind hand in exercising its batons on them. Sir Charles Elliott is at a loss to account for the increased number of prisoners in the jails last year, but the writer can help him in the matter. The cause of the increase is that Resolution of Government in which the opinion was expressed that Deputy Magistrates let off a large number of accused persons. Yes, it is that

Sir Charles Elliott and the administration of Criminal Justice.

Resolution that has produced this excellent result. The District Magistrates are working the machinery of the law. They see all papers connected with a case before and after trial, and throw out hints about the nature of the sentence which is to be passed in a case. Again, if, after the trial of a case, they see that the sentence passed has been inadequate, they call for an explanation from the Deputy Magistrate who tried the case. It is on account of this interference in their work by District Magistrates that many Deputy Magistrates of experience and reputation are now heard to say that it has become difficult for them to do their work. The Deputy Magistrates are not incompetent men. They have read at a glance the wish of their superiors in the matter of convicting accused persons, and the result is this increase in the number of the inmates of jails. In ancient days when a victorious Roman General made his triumphant entry into the city, he used to be reminded by a slave, in the midst of his triumph and victory, that he was an ordinary man. In the same way, there ought to be some one by the side of the rulers of India to remind them that they are foreigners, and, as such, they should not pretend to know more about the country than its people. Anglo-Indian statesmen read old Mill's History, and think that Asiatics require to be ruled according to a policy of terrorism. And one old Anglo-Indian, Mr. Townsend, the Editor of the London Spectator, has praised the bloody policy of the Amir Abdur Rahman and hinted that no policy unlike that will suit Asia. But Russia and Germany to be sure are not in Asia. The Aryans are the founders of liberty, and it is a most questionable policy to try to rule by means of terrorism, a people who have been educated by the English. The present rulers of India and the big European officials think in the following way:—

The natives want to raise their heads, and they therefore talk of politics and rights. Let us therefore assume a *birat* (terrific, terrible) form and cause hard punishments to be inflicted on them by native hakims. If this is done, their political aspirations will be for ever knocked out of them. What a grievous mistake? How opposed to the teachings of history this belief! The old rulers of France held the same belief, and the policy which is an outcome and expression of this belief received its highest development in Italy. But where is that policy now? Have whipping, imprisonment, hanging, transportation to Siberia, and such like things, terrified the people of Russia into inactivity? The British Empire is not, however, the place where such a policy as once prevailed in France and Italy can prosper. Such a policy will not daunt those that have been accustomed to enjoy the benefits of English rule. The result of its enforcement will be a crowding of the jails for a time, necessitating extra accommodation there, and to induce the authorities to require that the inmates of these jails should be subjected to hard labour. But civilisation, the knowledge and the rights of man, must assert themselves in the end. The writer will say again and again that the present system of criminal trials is reprehensible in the extreme. The punishments inflicted by the Indian tribunals appear to be disproportionately severe compared with those that are inflicted by Judges and Magistrates in England. What wonder then that people here should come to look upon their hakims as low, despicable creatures? This result is due to the wish to uphold British prestige. Well, let that prestige be maintained by all means, but this much is certain that if the Resolution of Government to which reference has been made in the course of the article remains in force, there will be no distinction between British Indian Courts and the Courts of Central Asia. The writer regrets to say this, but he meets with facts every day which oblige him to say it. The people of England would have moved heaven and earth if a thousandth part of what happens in the *mofussil* here had happened among them.

HINDU RANJIKA,
June 5th, 1892.

Mr. Phillips, Magistrate of
Mymensingh.
Mymensingh:—

6. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 8th June, has
the following regarding Mr. Phillips, Magistrate of

Mr. Phillips has no doubt done many noble things in Mymensingh, but he has not, nevertheless, given up his *zubberdustism*. Indeed, his Mymensingh *zubberdustism* has outdone even his Rajshahi *zubberdustism*. The accounts of Mr. Phillips's highhandedness in Mymensingh, published in the last four or five issues of the *Sanjivani*, have really astounded everybody. It is very strange

that Sir Charles Elliott has not yet thought fit to enquire into Mr. Phillips's conduct. It is clear that if the charges against that officer prove to be true, some remedy should be applied without delay. And failing the adoption of any other remedy, Mr. Phillips, who seems to be very anxious to extend the possessions of Government, may be rewarded by being translated to the Bengal Secretariat, where it will be difficult for him to cause mischief to the people by his *zubberdust* policy.

Besides the eviction and the *dová* affairs, Mr. Phillips has instituted a case against Raja Suryya Kanta Acharyya, under several sections of the Penal Code. An enquiry into Mr. Phillips's conduct ought at once to be made by Government.

Mr. Phillips, Magistrate of Mymensingh. 7. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th June, gives the proceedings of Mr. Phillips, Magistrate of Mymensingh, against Babu Sarat Chandra Ray, a talukdar of the village Sararchar:—

SANJIVANI,
June 11th, 1892.

ANARCHY-ANARCHY.

MR. PHILLIPS'S BOX STOLEN.

A GENTLEMAN CHARGED WITH THEFT.

MR. PHILLIPS'S ILLEGAL ORDER.

TRESPASS INTO THE ZANANA OF A RESPECTABLE HOUSEHOLD.

SEIZURE OF THE ORNAMENTS OF THE LADIES.

The proceedings were instituted under the following circumstances:—At 2 or 3 A.M., on the 25th January last, the articles of Mr. Phillips, who was then on tour, arrived at the bazar of the village, Sararchar, in a cart under the charge of his cook, Abdul Gafur. The Magistrate's bench clerk, Babu Mohinimohan Ghosh, was also present on the spot. Two carts of the District Engineer also were at the bazar at that time. At that hour Sarat Babu was going to a prostitute's house accompanied by two men. The Babu, who was drunk, stumbled on the Magistrate's cart. Enraged at this, he beat the cartman and on coming to know that the cart contained the Magistrate's goods began to abuse him. Then the Babu, who had then wine-bottles with him, entered a prostitute's house. He conducted himself there in a most disorderly manner. He broke the mat walls of the prostitute, Syama, and beat one or two men. In the morning, the Babu was found so drunk that he had to be conveyed to his house in a palanquin. The Magistrate arrived at the bazar in the morning, and hearing that he had been abused in foul terms by Sarat Babu, that his box had been stolen, and that his cartman, Sachuni, had been beaten, took the deposition of his cook, his cartman, and his clerk on the spot.

The cook, Abdul Gafur deposed as follows:—

We arrived at Sararchar at 2 or 3 A.M. last night. The Babu's (District Engineer's) two carts were there. The kerani was there with two carts and one cart of Your Honour. We intended to start early next morning, hearing that the road in that direction was bad. A Babu, whose name the gurwan knows, came with four or five men. He was drunk, and he abused everybody. He beat the cartman and also the chaukidar. There was no row whatever. He broke the prostitute's mat houses. The kerani Babu knows what abuse he uttered. He indulged in the most filthy abuse of the kerani, of the police and of the sahib. A box of Your Honour was taken.

Sachuni gurwan corroborated the statement that the Babu came drunk and struck him with a stick.

Abdul Gafur further deposed as follows:—

Danguria chaukidar refused to give us help, though I called on him to do so. He said he feared to do so. The Babu is my zamindar. The box was on the cart, and after the disturbance it was not there.

Karim Shaikh corroborated, and said that the box had been taken from the carts and flung away, but has not been taken away, he having got it back.

The clerk, Mohinimohan Ghose, deposed as follows:—I and the gurwan, and the District Engineer arrived at the same time. I heard the Babu utter abuse in Collector's name. I heard him ask—"Whose carts are they?" They said: "The Collector's." He was causing disturbances throughout the latter part of the night. There was no provocation and no cause for the disturbance. The Babu was drunk and was talking in a high angry voice. A prostitute came and took shelter where I was. She had been beaten. I heard the sound

of breaking down houses. The prostitute said, her house was on land belonging to another zamindar. Sarat Babu wanted her to come to his land or to pay him Rs. 12. At dawn the gurwan told me that the box of the Collector was missing.

The depositions taken, Mr. Phillips issued an order requiring the head-constable in charge of the Bazitpore police station to arrest and bring before him Sarat Babu and his men, who had committed offences under sections 147, 323 and 379 of the Penal Code, offences, that is, of riot, of wilfully causing hurt and of theft. The Magistrate was perhaps under the impression that Sarat Babu had stolen the box. But the depositions of the Magistrate's men furnished no ground whatever for this charge. The cook, Abdul Gafur, said in the first instance—"A box of Your Honour was taken," but he did not mention the name of the person who took it, and in his second deposition said—"The box was on the cart and after the disturbance it was not there." Karim Shaikh said—"The box was taken from the cart and flung away. It was not taken away. I got it back;" and the clerk, Mohini Babu said—"At dawn the gurwans told me that the Collector's box was missing." And on the strength of this evidence the Magistrate charged Sarat Babu with theft!

Mr. Phillips himself was the real complainant in this case, and it is well known that he had been abused by the accused. It is for the Lieutenant-Governor to decide whether Mr. Phillips did right in issuing the warrant himself under these circumstances. Mr. Phillips so completely lost his senses under the influence of anger that, not satisfied with issuing the warrant, he, on the same date, also issued a warrant for searching Sarat Babu's house. The search warrant was to the following effect:—

Warrant to search suspected place of deposit.

To Dwarkanath Roy, Head-constable, Bajitpur station.

WHEREAS information has been laid before me, and, on due enquiry thereupon had, I have been led to believe that the house, premises, and buildings of Sarat Chandra Roy of Sararchar are used as a place for the deposit of stolen property—

This is to authorize and require you to enter the said house, premises, and buildings with such assistance as may be required, and to use, if necessary, reasonable force for that purpose, and to search every part of the said house, premises, and buildings, and to seize and take possession of any property (a box and the papers, &c., within it), and forthwith to bring before this Court such of the said things as may be taken possession of; returning this warrant with an endorsement certifying what you have done under it, immediately after its execution.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this 26th day of January 1892.

H. A. D. PHILLIPS,

Magistrate.

How dreadful all this! A drunkard was supposed to have taken away an article, and a warrant was issued to search his house as a suspected place of deposit to his great disgrace. Again, the Magistrate instructed the police to use reasonable force, if necessary.

On the following day, Mr. Phillips took the deposition of the prostitute Syama, who said that Sarat Babu had beaten her and the Magistrate's cartman, as well as broken her walls in a drunken state, and that when he went away he repaired the walls. She also said that the Babu went away in the morning in a palanquin. Under Syama's deposition the Magistrate wrote as follows:—"First information to be written up under sections 457, 458, &c., if Police have not already done it. The offences under sections 457 and 458 of the Indian Penal Code are wrongful trespass or lurking house trespass with intent to cause hurt to anybody, and are punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years." The Magistrate instructed the police to prove these offences against Sarat Babu. What was this if not lawlessness?

On the 27th January, the depositions of some other prostitutes and palanquin-bearers were taken. On that day Naju Shaikh deposed "that his house was four miles from Sararchar; that in the morning Ahmad Ali, chaukidar, awoke him and told him that he had found a box near his house; that on going out he found a box; that the chaukidar said that the box must have dropped from the sahib's cart which had passed by that way; that he found a red book at a distance of 25 yards from where the box lay." Ahmad Ali, chaukidar, said "I got the box on the public road near Naju's house. I went with Your Honour's carriage as far as Sararchar. On my way back I found the box on the road in the morning."

Mr. Phillips's cook had deposed that he was seated on the cart, and that he must have then come to know of the dropping of the box if it had fallen, and that the box was, moreover, tied by a rope to the table. The Magistrate believed that his cook sat up on the cart till that late hour of the night guarding his property, and was under the impression that Ahmad Ali, chaukidar, had removed the box from Sararchar and dropped it near Naju's house.

The police sent men in all directions to arrest Sarat Babu. But Mr. Phillips could not wait. On the 27th January, he issued a proclamation requiring Sarat Babu to appear within 30 days from that date before the Sadar Sub-divisional Court to answer charges as well as a warrant for the seizure of his property as an absconding offender. It would be idle to ask Mr. Phillips under what law he issued the proclamation as well as the warrant for the seizure of property on one and the same date. It is his practice to trample upon the law. Thus, instead of allowing Sarat Babu the prescribed period of 30 days to make his appearance, the Magistrate issued a warrant for the seizure of his property on the very same day that he issued the proclamation.

Sarat Chandra Roy is certainly a drunkard and unworthy of the name of a gentleman. But he belongs to a very respectable family. The Magistrate issued his warrant for searching Sarat Babu's house for the box on the 26th January, but the box was recovered from Naju's house on the very same date. And yet Sarat Babu's house was searched for the box on the 28th January. Does not this plainly show that the Magistrate's object in ordering the search was to punish Sarat Babu? That the Magistrate had doubts about the theft of the box is clear from the instructions he gave to the Sub-Inspector of the Bajitpur thána which were as follows:—

The Sub-Inspector wants to know how many A forms he should submit. He should be guided by the rules of his department in that matter. The occurrences in the two prostitutes' houses are separate occurrences, and the beating of the cartman is a separate offence. But the trying Magistrate will try them all together. As to the theft of the box, I do not think there is sufficient evidence got to submit A form. The case must be fully investigated. The police has got the clue. Ahmad Ali, chaukidar, left the box at the house of Naju Shaikh; the chaukidar has not been produced. It is said he belongs to Nikli thána.

The examination of Ahmad Ali, chaukidar, Sonaula Panchayet will probably disclose who took the box.

H. A. D. PHILLIPS,

Magistrate.

Dated 27th January 1892.

Would it be wrong, under these circumstances, to characterise the proceedings of Mr. Phillips as proceedings befitting only the country of the Mugs (the Burmese), whose lawlessness has passed into a proverb?

On the 28th January, the property of Sarat Babu, including gold, silver, copper and brass articles, shawls and other valuable cloths, and even the ornaments and wearing apparel of the ladies were seized amid the wailings of the latter.

This unprecedented oppression took place under British rule. This oppression has greatly alarmed the people of Mymensingh. The police had no authority whatever to seize the ornaments and wearing apparel of the ladies. The nature of the articles seized shows that Sarat Chandra Roy belongs to a respectable family.

On the 10th February, Sarat Babu made his appearance before the Sadar Sub-divisional Court. The Assistant Magistrate, Mr. Halifax, was entrusted with the trial of the case, the hearing of which was fixed for the 9th March. Before the trial, Mr. Phillips had a private consultation with Sarat Chandra Roy's pleader, Babu Ishan Chandra Chakravarti. After the consultation, Mr. Phillips wrote to Mr. Halifax as follows:—

To Assistant Magistrate.

I have read through the record of evidence for the prosecution, and it is not clear that unbailable offences have been committed, as the prostitute witnesses seem to have gone back on some of their statements. I have no desire to press this case unduly against the accused persons; but authority must be vindicated, and the inhabitants of Sarachar protected from any further outrage or oppression. If the accused choose to confess and throw themselves on the mercy of the Court (the fact of confessing is in some Penal Code stated to be a ground for giving a slighter punishment), I have no objection to the Assistant Magistrate giving consideration to such plea, and dealing with the case leniently. Of course, if they do not care to do so, the case will be tried out. Babu Isan Chandra Chakravarti tells me he has instructed his client to this effect, and I have told him I will record what I have said to him and write to the Assistant Magistrate to place it with the record.

H. A. D. PHILLIPS,
Magistrate.

The 9th March 1892.

It was by order of the Magistrate that Sarat Babu was charged with serious offences, that the police entered his zanana and seized his goods, and that he was proclaimed as a keeper of stolen property, and yet at the time of the trial the Magistrate had a private consultation with the accused's pleader and instructed the trying Magistrate to let the man off with a light punishment. This is strange travesty of justice. Mr. Phillips has not failed to put new interpretations of his own on the law. That confession entitles the accused to a lighter punishment is a principle which is nowhere recognized in the Indian Penal Code. As a result of these arrangements, Sarat Babu was let off with a fine of 120 rupees.

A man who commits, in a drunken state, the offences of which Sarat Babu was guilty, cannot be charged with any higher offence than that of simple assault, for which a fine of 10 or 15 rupees ought to be sufficient. But as Sarat Babu abused the Magistrate in a drunken state, he has had to suffer so much.

Mr. Phillips himself was the real complainant in the case, and he had not therefore, under the law, jurisdiction in regard to it. And yet he issued the warrant for arrest as well as the proclamation and the warrant for the seizure of property, and in order to punish Sarat Babu proclaimed him as a keeper of stolen property. In defiance of the law, he issued the proclamation and the warrant for the seizure of property on the day following that on which the warrant for arrest was issued, and before receiving the final report of the police. We ask the Lieutenant-Governor whether Mr. Phillips has not acted illegally from vindictive feelings. Let His Honour transfer such a man from Mymensingh as soon as possible, or serious consequences may be produced. There is a great sensation in Mymensingh, and the people are in a state of uneasiness and excitement. We hope that the Lieutenant-Governor will soon take remedial measures.

8. The same paper says that the case in which Babu Sachchidananda Mukherji, Deputy Magistrate of Faridpur, appeared

A case tried by Mr. Growse,
District Magistrate of Faridpur.

as a witness was disposed of by Mr. Growse the other day, the accused being sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for three months each. In that case Rajkumar Mandal, Guru Charan Mandal, and several others were the accused, and an officer under the Deputy Magistrate was the complainant. The summary and unsatisfactory way in which the case was disposed of left the suspicion in men's minds that the truth in the case had not been elicited, specially as the accused were poor peasants, and the party opposed to them consisted of officers under the Deputy Magistrate who was himself brought forward as a witness.

9. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 13th June, says that Dacca has just now a rather superabundant staff of judicial officers, namely, two District Judges and three Subordinate Judges. If Government has too many judicial

Superfluity of Judicial Officers
in Dacca.

SANJIVANI,
June 11th, 1892.

DACCA GAZETTE
June 13th, 1892.

officers on its hands, and wants to dispose of them in this way, there can be no objection to the arrangement. If not, the High Court ought to look sharp and remove some of the officers from Dacca, as there is not sufficient work for five judicial officers in the place just now.

10. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 13th June, has heard a rumour that the Lieutenant-Governor contemplates striking a blow at the jury system. But if jury

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
May 13th, 1892.

Jury trial. trial is abolished, it will have to be abolished throughout India. And are all Englishmen opposed to jury trial like Sir Charles Elliott? There was jury trial in India under the Hindu rule, and *Sabhasadas* used to help the *Prarvibak* in the same way as the jury now help the Judges. It is rumoured that Sir Charles Elliott wishes to see jury trial abolished in the mufassal; but, even in that case, the sahebs in the mufassal cannot be deprived of their right to be tried by jury. So, the only alternative left is to deprive only natives of the right of jury trial. That is a contingency which no one ought to entertain in his mind. But having regard to the progress which absolutism is making now-a-days, there is nothing that cannot occur in India.

11. The same paper refers to the judgment delivered by a full bench of the Allahabad High Court on the Benares riot case, which was originally tried by Mr. Nichols, Judge of Benares, and remarks as follows:—

The convicts in the Benares temple case.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

The writer is convinced after his perusal of the judgment that many of those who were convicted by Mr. Nichols in the Benares temple case were unjustly convicted. And as many of them were unable for want of means, to appeal against Mr. Nichols's judgment and are now serving out their terms of imprisonment, Government ought to prefer appeals on their behalf. It is bound to do this in consideration of justice and fair play. It is hoped that Sir Auckland Colvin will give a thought to the case of these unfortunate people. Those Anglo-Indians who blamed the writer for finding fault with Mr. Nichols's decisions in the Benares temple case are now astounded to see the extent of his judicial ability.

12. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 16th June, has the following:—

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 16th, 1892.

Jury trial. It is rumoured that the Lieutenant-Governor contemplates putting an end to trial by jury in riot cases like those which recently occurred at Shambazar in Calcutta, and has accordingly addressed the Government of India on the subject. The Viceroy has taken the opinion of the Judges of the High Court on the subject, and the majority of the latter have, it is rumoured, given their opinion in favour of the proposed modification of the jury system. If there be truth in the rumour, and jury trial comes to be restricted, failure of justice will become a very common occurrence. There are many Judges of Mr. Nichols's type in the country, and the result of a restriction of the jury system, will be to send many innocent men to jail. Is it the intention of Government to inaugurate a despotic rule in India?

(c)—Jails.

13. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 7th June, thus criticises the Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution on the Jail Administration Report for 1892:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 7th, 1892.

The Jail Resolution.

The Lieutenant-Governor has expressed disapproval of the practice of many Magistrates in sentencing weak and aged convicts to simple imprisonment. In His Honour's opinion such convicts should be sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour, and it should be for the jailors to consider their age and infirmities in allotting them work. The writer is unable to agree with the Lieutenant-Governor in this matter. When the law leaves it to the discretion of Magistrates to sentence a man to imprisonment with or without labour, it is certainly not proper to interfere with that discretion by asking them to pass rigorous sentences in all cases.

It is improper, in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor, to employ able-bodied prisoners on such work as rope-making, making jute, twine, &c. His Honour is for employing them on work requiring hard labour, such as breaking stones, digging earth, and so on. Prisoners are no doubt punished more severely

when employed on work of the latter than when employed on work of the former description. But employing them on work of the first description is profitable to Government and beneficial to themselves. If prisoners are taught some arts in jail, they can manage to obtain their livelihood by practising them after their release, while the products of their labour in the shape of cloth, *sataranch*, bamboo chairs sold in the bazar bring money to Government. It was on this principle that prisoners in jail were formerly employed on various useful industries.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 13th, 1892.

Convict labour.

14. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 13th June, has the following:—

The fact that all prisoners in the jails in this country do not work at the oil-machine, break stones, and grind flour, and that many of them weave cloth and do wicker-work has been noticed by the Lieutenant-Governor with dissatisfaction. It is His Honour's wish that all prisoners should be made to do very hard work. Sir George Campbell was also of this opinion, and that is why he confounded the jail administration. Probably, Sir Charles Elliott will do the same thing. Retaliation is not the only object with which offenders are sent jail. Reforming the prisoner's character, and teaching him some art or manufacture, by the practice of which he can make his living after his release, these are the chief objects which incarceration in jail has in view. And the rules for teaching industrial arts to the prisoners in the jails have been made for the purpose of giving effect to these objects. These rules were made by men who possessed more intellect and experience than Sir Charles Elliott. In all countries overwork is the cause of jail mortality, and he will certainly incur sin who will require overwork in the jails.

(d)—Education.

NAVAYUGA,
June 9th, 1892.

An educational appointment.

15. The *Navayuga*, of the 9th June, has the following:—

Babu Brahma Mohan Mallik, Inspector of Schools, has retired from the public service, and Babu Radha Nath Roy, Joint-Inspector, is, for the present, officiating in his post. But it is the intention of the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint Mr. Hill, Professor of the Hooghly College, permanently to the Inspectorship. But will the appointment of a European to a post like this be in consonance with the Resolution of the Public Service Commission? It is for this reason that the writer says that there is a great difference between Englishmen's profession and practice.

NAVAYUGA.

Distribution of *tol* grants.

16. The same paper quotes from the *Sahachar* newspaper the certificate which some eminent pandits of Navadwipa have given to Pandit Lal Mohan Vidyabagis, as the first *Smarta* Pandit of Navadwipa, and remarks as follows:—

Eminent pandits, like Mahamahopadhyaya Bhuban Mohan Vidyaratna, have had to admit that it has been a most improper act to pit Pandit Rajani Kant Vidyaratna, of Mulajor, against Pandit Lal Mohan of Navadwipa, and to secure the Government grant for *smriti* in Rajani Kant's favour. It is hoped that Government will do justice in the matter. The pandits of Bengal ought to write and submit a petition to Government, asking it not to distribute its *tol* grants through the medium of the wicked Pandit Mahesh Chandra Nyayaratna.

SUDHAKAR,
June 10th, 1892.

The Daulatpur school in the Khulna district.

17. A correspondent of the *Sudhakar*, of the 10th June, sees no necessity for two entrance schools, namely, the Daulatpur school and the Senhati school, in the Khulna district, within two miles of the Khulna, zilla school, and within half-a-mile of each other, on opposite banks of a small stream, which flows between the villages in which they are respectively situated. The Senhati school is a prosperous institution, but the Daulatpur school, maintained with the Mohsin Fund, for the benefit of Muhammadan boys, has not passed a single candidate at the Entrance examination during the last twenty years. The Senhati school might become still more prosperous if relieved of the Daulatpur competition. Considering that Daulatpur does not contain a large and respectable Muhammadan population, the authorities would do well to amalgamate the school in that place with the Khulna zilla school, as Khulna is not more than four miles from Daulatpur, and there is communication between the two places,

by road and rail. The grant from the Mohsin Fund to the Daulatpur school is so much money wasted.

18. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 15th June, says that Sir George Campbell proposed to establish an Agricultural and Industrial College in Bengal, injuring the general education of the province for the purpose, if necessary. And it is rumoured that Sir Charles Elliott wishes to do the same thing. The present editor of the *Hindu Patriot* regrets that Sir George Campbell was unable to give effect to his scheme, and hopes that Sir Charles Elliott will meet with better success. But the late editor of the *Hindu Patriot*, the late Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal, never supported Sir George's scheme, for he knew perfectly well that any improvement of Indian agriculture on the English model would fail to be of the least use or benefit to the country. That was also the opinion of the late Sir Ashley Eden. And, as a matter of fact, the country is suffering not so much on account of any want of improvement of its agricultural art, which, by the way, is practically the very best it can have, as on account of want of capital, the poverty of the agriculturist class, and the rapid increase in the number of agriculturists owing to the decadence of the country's manufacturing industry. Nor does the writer see any necessity for an Industrial College in this country. The real cause of India's industrial decline is the free-trade policy of Government, and not any want of education in the industrial arts. A hundred Industrial Colleges will fail to be of the least benefit to the country so long as Government shall stick to its present commercial policy. Everybody, with the exception of the present editor of the *Hindu Patriot*, understands this. The late Babu Kristo Das Pal understood it extremely well. The present editor of the *Hindu Patriot* ought to know that most of Sir Charles Elliott's actions are the outcome of a short-sighted policy.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 15th, 1892.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

19. The *Sahachar*, of the 8th June, says that the question of the impurities in the filtered water of Calcutta ought to be discussed during the Lieutenant-Governor's stay in the city. The summary way in which Mr. Lee has disposed of the question of snakes in the filtered water ought not to give satisfaction to anyone. Nor is the Chief Engineer's report on the subject satisfactory. According to him, snakes may have bred in the reservoir in Wellington Square, or they may have entered it during a shower of rain. This report has surprised the writer, for it means that the reservoir has been constructed in such a way that rainwater can enter into it. This no doubt reflects great credit on the Engineer's department. The Engineer has also said that when these earthworms will commence to die, the filtered water will become unwholesome, and no one should therefore drink it without boiling.

SAHACHAR,
June 8th, 1892.

20. A correspondent of the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 16th June, says that people in the town of Midnapore are suffering terribly from scarcity of water. The local municipality has engaged five or six carts to bring water from the Kansavati for distribution to the poor of certain wards. But the supply is proving extremely inadequate. The present Chairman of the local municipality does not seem to take much interest in his work. He is never seen to do anything for the public good. The water-scarcity in Midnapore town may be removed if the municipality goes on year after year excavating at least two or three large wells in each ward. Much good would have been done if instead of spending its money in lighting the town, and in constructing signboards, which, by the way, are not needed in a town like Midnapore, the municipality had spent it in removing the water-scarcity.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 16th, 1892.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

21. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 8th June, says that the Rajshahi District Board has employed jail labour at a cheap rate in repairing the Nator road, because the wages of ordinary labourers are a little too high just now. But the writer cannot approve

HINDU RANJIKA,
June 8th, 1892.

of this for two reasons. In the first place, the sort of labour on which the prisoners have been employed will prove too hard for them. In the second place, in this time of distress, the District Board, whose duty it is to give succour to the people, should not employ jail labour in place of ordinary labour with a view of making a little saving of money. It is hoped the Vice-Chairman of the District Board will take these remarks into his consideration.

NAVAYUGA,
June 9th, 1892.

Survey operations in connection
with the Rajapur drainage canal
in the Howrah district.

22. A correspondent of the *Navayuga*, of the 9th June, writes as follows:—

There was a time when the fields near Rajapur, in the district of Howrah, known as the "*Bada of Rajapur*," were unfit for cultivation in consequence of the accumulation of water in them during the rainy season. Since the excavation of the Rajapur drainage canal by Government, these lands have become fit for cultivation and are now producing paddy, jute, and other crops in abundance. This canal passes through Ula, Hirapur, Gandharbapur and other villages and joins the Hooghly at Sarenga. These villages, however, are situated on high ground and never suffered from excess of water like the Rajapur lands. During the rains, when the paddy plants are in ear, it sometimes becomes necessary to drain the Rajapur fields of superfluous water by opening the mouth of the canal. But this process of opening the mouth of the canal does great injury to the crops in the villages named above by depriving them of their needful supply of water. Thus, the villages in question, which never stood in need of the canal which was excavated principally to benefit the Rajapur lands, not only do not receive any benefit from the canal, but are positively injured by it. Being situated on high ground the villages were never in danger of being inundated; and if water at any time accumulated in them, there were drainage canals to drain off the excess. So the new canal was not needed for their drainage. As for saving the lands in those villages from drought, the new canal has been of no use in that respect, for not even a chitak of the canal water can be carried over those fields. Thus the villages in question have derived no benefit from the canal. They are, nevertheless, being surveyed by order of the Lieutenant-Governor as being lands which have been benefited by the canal! And the injustice will not end there. The officers of Government who are making the survey have ordered the peasants to be present at it. But as no notices fixing the dates on which particular fields will be surveyed are issued, the raiyats are obliged to accompany the survey officer from morning till noon and from 3 P.M. to 6-30 P.M. every day, those failing to do this being fined Rs. 25 or Rs. 50 each. Now it is very improper for Government to give to an ordinary surveyor the power of fining people summarily. Moreover, the necessity of accompanying the survey officer for so many hours every day prevents the people in these days of distress from working for their livelihood. It is hoped that Mr. Cotton will institute an enquiry into the matter.

GRAMVASI,
June 13th, 1892.

A road from Uttarpara to the
railway station of Bally on the
East Indian Railway line.

23. The *Gramvasi*, of the 13th June, says that the people of Uttarpara have to make a long detour in coming to the Bally station on the East Indian Railway line, there being no direct road from the village to the station. If a road leading to the station is constructed along the border of the railway line, both the public and the Railway Company will be benefited. If Babu Siva-Narayan Mukerji, Chairman of the Uttarpara Municipality, gives some money from the Municipal Fund for the construction of such a road, the Government or the Railway Company may be induced to furnish the balance. It is hoped that Siva Narayan Babu will attend to the matter.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 15th, 1892.

Use of the Midnapore Canal.

24. A correspondent of the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 15th June, says that according to Mr. Scotland, Executive Engineer of the Cossye Division of the Midnapore district, if sufficient water has to be kept in the Midnapore Canal for purposes of navigation, it will be impossible to supply water for irrigation purposes. But considering the distress which the people there are suffering this year on account of scarcity of water, not only for irrigation, but also for drinking purposes, and the large revenue that is raised by Government by the water rate, the authorities would do well to stop navigation in the canal, and use the whole water for irrigation purposes.

(h)—General.

25. The *Bharat Mitra*, of the 2nd June, condemns Sir Charles Elliott's retrenchment policy, especially in regard to the Education Department, and says that it was this policy which prevented His Honour from seeing the distress which was actually prevailing in North Bihár when he visited that part of the country. Sir Charles wants to save money by depriving poor Government employes of their bread, but he never ventures to reduce the salaries of big European officials.

BHARAT MITRA,
June 2nd, 1892.

26. The *Charuvarta*, of the 6th June, says that bearing letters, things coming by book-post and money orders, are not delivered in the Sherepur town in the Mymensingh district on the day on which they arrive, and the delay, it is said, is due to an insufficiency of clerks and delivery peons. An additional staff of one clerk and two peons will remove all cause of complaint. It is hoped the authorities will grant this additional staff, specially when it is considered that the people of Sherepur bound themselves to make good any loss which Government might suffer by establishing this post office, and are now able to say that the post office is making a net profit of about Rs. 4,632 a year.

CHARUVARTA,
June 6th, 1892.

Sir Auckland Colvin's defence
in the Hurdwar affair.

27. The *Sahachar*, of the 8th June, has the following:—

SAHACHAR,
June 8th, 1892.

That the term of Sir Auckland Colvin's service has come to an end is a fact over which we would ask, not only the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, but all India, to rejoice and be merry. Sir Auckland is only a provincial Lieutenant-Governor. But a large number of the sacred places of the Hindus lie within his jurisdiction. If the things which he has allowed to take place in Hurdwar had happened in any place in Europe, they would have called forth the loudest protest from men like Mr. Gladstone. In Egypt, Sir Auckland did things which constituted an attack upon the natural rights of the people of that country, and when his actions were protested against, he made the characteristic reply—"We have long since done more than all this in India." In Hurdwar, Sir Auckland simply outdid himself—made Colvin the Colvin that he is. The Native Press has been persistently protesting against his actions at Hurdwar: the Punjab which he sought to conciliate by patting it on the back has opened its mouth. Sir Auckland has, therefore, found it necessary to do something with a view of defending his conduct in regard to the recent *mela* at Hurdwar. Now, what are these other things he is doing? In a letter on the subject of the *mela*, Mr. Harington, the Commissioner of Meerut, says that he was for many years District Magistrate of Hurdwar, that it was he who made the arrangements on the occasion of the last *Kumbha mela*, and that this time also the necessary arrangements were made by him in consultation with the local authorities. Mr. Harington adds, "I can personally testify to the fact that very good arrangements were made this time." (Indeed!) "The *mela* grounds were kept clean, there were no foul smells, vaccinators (why these?) and inspectors were busy moving about, seeing that there was no overcrowding in the lodging-houses; the sick were promptly removed to hospital." Now, if all this was really done, what is one to make of the statement in the official report that certain pilgrims, who were suffering from cholera, died whilst bathing in the sacred pool? If the vaccinators and inspectors were really acting with so much care and attention, how is it that they failed to find these pilgrims out? The Commissioner says that only one thing was wanting to make the arrangements made this year complete, namely, the absence of that ceaseless stream of fresh water which in other years was made to fall into the sacred pool in which the pilgrims bathe, and thus prevent it from becoming foul with the bathing of countless bathers. According to the Engineer in charge, as the supply of water in the river was not sufficiently large, it was not possible to make this arrangement. But one who is well qualified to pronounce an opinion on the point has said that sufficient water to form a stream could have been found if only a simple embankment had been thrown up across the river a fortnight before the *mela*. Among the pilgrims there was the Paramhansa Brahmananda Bharati Swami. We cannot disbelieve this *Sadhu*. The sahebs know well how to write letters supporting each other; but we do not set much value on such letters. Now, as Chairman of the protest meeting recently held at Lahore, the *Sadhu* distinctly stated that the

arrangements at the *mela* were extremely unsatisfactory. Mr. Harington's letter only contains a number of general statements, which leave untouched the specific cases or instances cited by the pilgrims. How many men were seized with cholera? Mr. Harington admits that 70,000 persons assembled at the *mela*. In so large a gathering, half a dozen cases of cholera are almost inevitable. But, as regards the extent of outbreak which would justify the dispersion of such a fair, Mr. Harington's letter is silent. Following the example of the blacksmith discoursing on the secrets of the potter's art, Mr. Harington says that the heat this year in Northern India was 15 degrees more than in other years. But he does not say what the temperature in Hurdwar was. Again, according to Mr. Harington, it was this high temperature, and the too frequent baths and drinking of foul water indulged in by some of the pilgrims, that caused the outbreak. Now, if bathing and drinking have anything to do with the outbreak of cholera, the outbreak at Hurdwar could have been easily prevented. The pilgrims say—and nothing that has up to this time appeared in the official papers proves them wrong in saying—that the signs of a cholera epidemic were entirely absent in Hurdwar; and according to Brahmananda Sadhu, the chasing of the pilgrims like a herd of cattle, and closely packing them in uncovered railway waggons, produced more cases of cholera than would have occurred if the men had been allowed to remain where they were. For the disease which had been confined to one place was, by means of the railway, carried to many places. And this is admitted by Mr. Harington. Has it then been wise to break up the fair in the way it has been broken up? A gradual dispersion of the gathering would neither have caused any hardship to the pilgrims, nor carried the germs of the disease to different parts of the country.

The Divisional Commissioner, the Magistrate, the Sanitary Commissioner, the Local Medical Officer, and the Police Superintendent were present at the consultation held for the purpose of deciding whether the *mela* should be broken up or not. And it seems that all of them were equally clever men! What they ought to have done on this occasion was to have conferred with some one among the *Pandas*, or at least with some of the most influential pilgrims. What do these officials understand of matters like these? Are those men, who think that a respectable native gentleman can in these days of high prices keep his family on 30 rupees a month, really able to arrive at a correct or sound decision regarding the propriety or otherwise of breaking up so large a *mela*? Where would have been the harm of waiting for a few days more?

Even when the *mela* was being held, the pilgrims telegraphed to the authorities complaining of the oppression that was being committed on them by Mussulman constables and mehters. Thousands of pilgrims were stopped at Saharunpore on their way to Hurdwar. They were then in a condition which was the most favourable for an outbreak of cholera. And, as a matter of fact, cholera did break out among them. Telegram after telegram was sent by the pilgrims. But neither the Lieutenant-Governor nor the Governor-General paid any heed to them. The telegraph officers refused to wire the telegram which it was finally decided to send to the Viceroy. What could this mean? It could only mean one thing, namely, that the Local Government was determined to break up the *mela*, and that determination was approved of by the weak-minded Lord Lansdowne. For, without their orders, the telegraph officials could never have ventured to refuse to accept a message tendered for transmission.

Mr. Harington has passed eulogiums upon himself and the local officials. In singling out for praise the officers who took a part in the dispersion of the *mela*, those, that is, who chased the pilgrims, the Commissioner has also made favourable mention of the names of one Hindu Deputy Collector and two Hindu Tahsildars, as if these names would be a guarantee that no oppression of any kind was committed on the pilgrims. Is not Raja Shiva Prasad a Hindu? This is an old dodge.

The fact is, Mr. Harington's letter contains no reply to the charges brought against the Hurdwar officials by the pilgrims. Brahmananda Sadhu has publicly stated what it was that was sent to Government in the shape of telegrams. The arrangements were extremely bad; there were not many cases of disease;

the constables freely used their whips and batons. The mehters touched the food of the pilgrims, and orders were issued to the local officers to see that the pilgrims got no food in the bazars two days before the ceremony. The pilgrims were chased out of the place while some of them were taking their meals, and others were cooking their food. Their cooking pots were broken and their food defiled by impure touch. Even their prayer that they might be permitted to go back to their lodgings and take their things was refused, and they were turned out without a moment's delay, each in exactly the condition in which he happened to be at the time. Husband was separated from wife, mother from son, and child from parent. All this reminded Brahmananda of Seraj-ud-dowlah's prison. Is Sir Auckland Colvin able to answer these charges? We ask—was the *mela* broken up solely on sanitary grounds? Or was it not the thought and the fear that the presence of many educated natives, and of many English-knowing Sadhus like Brahmananda in the gathering, might be made use of by the vast assembly, at Hurdwar, of men from all parts of India, for the purpose of political consultation and discussion, that led that model administrator, Sir Auckland Colvin, to drive the pilgrims away like a herd of cattle? That the authorities have not yet instituted any enquiry or vouchsafed any explanation to the public in this matter only lends colour to this surmise. Those that advance the single plea of sanitation must have known that by the sudden dispersion of the fair they would be simply courting the disaster which they were most anxious to avert. We are fallen upon evil times. It is a pity that the Governor-General, to whom we are to appeal against the acts of the civilian officers of Government—of the men, that is, who are steeped in prejudice, and who discern rebellion even in their dreams—has, ever since he set foot in India, gone on committing error after error—Cashmere to-day, Manipur to-morrow, &c., &c. Are things like these being done only for the purpose of frightening the Hindus? Power is in your hands, and the Hindus do not question that it is there. The Hindus do not discuss politics in places of pilgrimage. Love and rebellion may be topics of conversation permissible in Christian churches; but it is otherwise with the sacred places of the Hindus, where even prostitutes learn to be modest and pious. What, then, is the secret of this Hurdwar affair? It will be extremely improper if no enquiry is made about the oppression and abuse of power recently witnessed at Hurdwar.

SUDHAKAR,
June 10th, 1892.

28. In the *Sudhakar*, of the 10th June, one Aftabuddin Ahmad, writing from Sriula within the jurisdiction of the Asasuni thána in the Khulna district, says that the income-tax assessor of that village is reported to take bribes, those who refuse to bribe him being assessed at most exorbitant amounts. This accusation may be true or not, but there is no denying that his assessments have been most unjust in several cases. Take the following instances:—

(1) Manik Gahi has been assessed at Rs. 10 per annum, though his annual income consists only of the following items:—

	Rs.
(1) Profit from a <i>gáthi jamá</i>	25 to 30
(2) Value of crops raised on 18 bighas of arable land ...	100
Total	125 to 130

(2) Sadbu Gahi has been assessed at Rs. 10, his income consisting of the following items:—

	Rs.
(1) Profit from grain trade	80
(2) Value of crops raised on arable land, less zamindar's rent ...	250 to 260
Total	330 to 340

(3) Muhammad Saha Sardar has been assessed at Rs. 42, because he is said to carry on business in "money and paddy lending," although the "money and paddy lending" consists only of small advances of money and paddy to the raiyats at small profits.

(4) Munshi Ahmad Ali and others have been assessed at Rs. 150 per annum.

SAMAY,
June 10th, 1892.

29. The *Samay*, of the 10th June, thus comments on the Resolution of the Government of India on the Report of the Public Service Commission:—

Resolution on the Report of the Public Service Commission.

It will be seen from the Resolution that, instead of increasing the number of appointments hitherto open to natives of India, Government has actually reduced it. If this was the intention of Government from the outset, why did it spend so much money in appointing the Public Service Commission? If Government was sorry to see appointments carrying large salaries pass out of the hands of its countrymen, it ought to have said so publicly, and ought not to have made so much ado about it. Things were better in this respect before the appointment of the Commission, for six or seven statutory civilianships were then open to the natives under the law of 1879. These statutory appointments have now been abolished. Government ought not to have acted in this way. It is hoped that it will reconsider the matter.

BANGANIVASI,
June 10th, 1892.

Government in the Hurdwar affair.

30. The *Banganivási* of the 10th June, has the following:—

It is hard to say why Government committed such oppression and *zulm* on the pilgrims at Hurdwar. The ruler who wishes to please his subjects will not certainly interfere with their religion. And Government ought to know that its conduct at Hurdwar is calculated to rouse its subjects' hatred against it. The disaster would have been averted if the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces had been a good-natured man, and had kept himself fully informed of the oppressions which were being committed. But, instead of doing that, he took it into his head to write a Resolution supporting the conduct of his subordinate officers. This strange Resolution contains nothing but a defence of the Hurdwar officers, and not even a single expression of regret for the unnecessary interference with the religion of the Hindus that was committed there. The Resolution would have been a perfect one of its kind if it had only announced promotions for the officers concerned.

In connection with this affair, the Hindus should take note of one thing. Meetings in Lahore, or, for the matter of that, in Burma, and the most vociferous speeches, will avail nothing. If the Hindus have been really intolerably aggrieved by the conduct of the underlings of Government, and if they want to save their religion, they ought at once to send representatives to England to ventilate their grievances. In India, neither the Viceroy nor the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces will listen to their cries or redress their grievances. A good deal has been written in the newspapers, and a good deal has been said at the meetings, but have these been of any avail? And it is still believed that the Viceroy will do justice to the Hindus! Lord Lansdowne himself is no doubt a good man, but there is no denying that he has, by following the advice of his counsellors, already tarnished his name, and that he will tarnish it still more. The Hindus should now look up to the British Parliament and to the Empress of India, who alone can redress their wrongs and punish the underlings of the Government here for their misdeeds.

BANGANIVASI.

31. The same paper says that although it is admitted on all hands that

The recent appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service.

the Deputy Magistrates appointed by competitive examination are giving full satisfaction to their superior officers, and have proved decidedly a more efficient body of officers than the old Deputies, who got admission into the service through back-door influence, yet, in its last appointment of Deputy Magistrates, Government has thought fit to appoint only ten men according to the results of examination, and has chosen another ten from among the examinees who obtained one-third of the full marks, with a careful "reference to the number of marks obtained, the claims upon Government of members of the candidate's family, and the interests of different classes of the community." No family or social considerations should influence Government in the appointment of civilians, who form a most efficient body of public servants, and the writer fails to understand why the same system should not be strictly followed in making appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service. In the reference to the claims upon Government of members of the candidate's family, the writer sees the old objectionable principle of patronage which yielded such unsatisfactory results. A full

adoption of the examination system will place Government above all charges of favouritism, and secure really able men for the public service.

The cooly despatch.

32. The *Bangavasi*, of the 11th June, has the following observations on the cooly despatch:—

BANGAVASI,
June 11th, 1892.

1. Both the Viceroy and the Secretary of State have admitted that heavy mortality takes place among coolies, both in the way up to Assam, and in the gardens. To check this evil, the Viceroy has proposed that the Superintendent shall not allow any labourer to enter into a contract until he produces a medical certificate of health. This will be a very proper measure.

2. The Viceroy has also proposed to give greater powers to the local authorities in dealing with unhealthy gardens. And the Secretary of State has concurred in the Viceroy's proposal to let the managers of tea-gardens clearly understand that failure to preserve their labourers in health will disentitle them to the benefits conferred by Act XIII of 1859. These are very good proposals no doubt, but will they ever be carried into effect?

3. It has been said that the health certificate system should be introduced only if the Assam Government agree to it. But will the Assam Government agree to any proposal that will in the least inconvenience the planters?

4. The malpractices connected with the system of recruitment by *arkatis* have been referred to by the Viceroy in his despatch, but His Excellency looks upon the evil as less serious than certain Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal have represented it to be, and thinks that they can be effectually suppressed by executive action. Act I of 1882 abolished the system of registration before Magistrates, and Sir Steuart Bayley was of opinion that the system should be re-introduced with a view to putting a check upon the *arkatis*. But the Viceroy will not accept this view. His Excellency considers this system of initial registration expensive and dilatory and *inconsistent* with the principle of free emigration. But the writer cannot agree in this view of the Viceroy. That a system of initial registration would be an effectual check upon the fraudulent practices of the *arkatis* cannot be questioned. But as the Viceroy does not take this view, the fraudulent practices of the *arkatis* will remain as prevalent as ever, and will continue to tarnish the name of the English people, who are known to be enemies of the slave trade.

33. The same paper says that the final result of the Public Service Commission is a reduction of the number of appointments which were set apart for the natives under the law relating to the Statutory Civil Service. If Parliament's will in this matter had been given effect to, 227 natives would have got appointments in the higher service, but the Commission reduced the number to 108, and now the Secretary of State has further reduced it and made it 86. He who can create is also free to destroy, and there is, therefore, nothing to regret in this. Those who know the present state of things in the country intimately will not feel grieved at this, for they know that everything that happens here happens under the will of God. And they also know that the appointment of the Public Service Commission at an enormous expenditure was also an event determined by the will of the Almighty.

BANGAVASI.

34. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th June, has the following:—

SANJIVANI,
June 11th, 1892.

This is not the time to remain asleep. Government's new educational policy, the present policy of the English Government in India, the *Chaukidari* Bill, the Municipal Bill, and the Resolution on the Public Service Commission's Report, are loudly proclaiming the fact that Government has adopted a very illiberal policy in the administration of this country. Surely, therefore, this is not the time when the people of India may remain listless or indifferent. The Indians are the subjects of the Empress Victoria, and it is sure Her Majesty never gave her Indian officials orders to close the door of progress against her Indian subjects, to keep her Indian subjects under perpetual police surveillance, to disallow her Indian subjects the right of appointing their own Municipal Chairmen, or to obstruct the entrance of her Indian subjects into the higher branches of the public service. It is in violation of Her Majesty's distinct orders that the Indian authorities are going to deprive the people of India of those just rights which they have so long enjoyed. And it will not therefore be well for the Indians to keep quiet. They should enter into the arena of action with the

prowess of a lion, and raise a storm of protests from one extremity of the country to the other. They should let English rulers see that subjection to British rule for two centuries has made the Indians worthy of the name of man, and that the Indians will surmount any obstacles which the authorities may throw across the path of their progress, and stand before Her Majesty praying for the fulfilment of their just demands.

The time has arrived when a strong agitation ought to be set on foot. Let Bengal take the lead, and hold protest meetings in every town and village, and the whole country will be roused to action. And if agitation in India fails to convince the authorities here of what the people consider to be their grievances, let the agitation be carried to England, and the people of India will have their hopes realized.

The writer earnestly hopes that the Liberal party will triumph at the ensuing general election in England, for, if they win, the barriers against Indian progress which are being raised by the Indian authorities under the Conservative Government will surely fall to pieces. Lord Lytton passed the Press Act under a Conservative Government, but the agitation which followed the passing of that Act convinced the succeeding Liberal Government that the Act was an interference with the liberty of the Indians, and they at once repealed it. And the same thing will take place again if the Liberal party in England can be convinced that the people of India have been really alarmed at the prospect of being placed under four serious grievances, namely, grievances in the matter of education, municipal administration, village watch, and employment in the higher branches of the public service.

SANJIVANI,
June 11th, 1892.

35. The same paper has the following:—

The Public Service Commission was appointed in 1886, and submitted its report in 1888, recommending the appointment of 108 natives to the higher branches of the public service. Since that year Statutory Civilians have ceased to be appointed, but Government has not yet given effect to the recommendations of the Commission. Four years have been thus spent in deliberations. What the deliberations in the present case have related to is not known. It is not known whether this period of four years has been spent in devising means for again "cheating" the natives. And now after four years of deep deliberation, Lord Cross has ordered that only 86 and not 108 natives will be appointed to the higher branches of the public service. Have not the natives been, therefore, "cheated" again?

Under the Parliamentary enactment of 1870, 230 natives would, in course of time, have been appointed to various posts in the Civil Service, excepting only the posts of the Governor-General and the Governors of Madras and Bombay. But the Public Service Commission recommended the appointment of natives to the following posts only:—

Bengal:—

(1) Under-Secretaries to Government	...	...	...	4
(2) District and Sessions Judges	...	...	...	6
(3) Magistrates	...	...	...	5
(4) Joint-Magistrates	...	...	...	8.5
(5) Member of the Board of Revenue	...	...	...	1
(6) Secretary to the Board of Revenue	...	...	...	1
(7) Divisional Commissioner	...	...	...	1
(8) Assistant Collectors	...	...	...	14

and this is proof that, instead of devising means for a more extensive employment of natives in the higher service, the avowed object for which the Commission was appointed, the Commission reduced the number of offices for the natives and restricted the sphere of their appointment. And it is known how the scope of the recommendations of the Commission has been further restricted by Lord Cross. This is what Lord Lytton in plain language called "cheating the natives."

The Indians clearly see that they have been "cheated," but they will not knowingly let themselves be "cheated." An agitation ought to be therefore set on foot throughout the country against Lord Cross' decision. The Indians should demand to be clearly shown upon what authority Lord Cross has been enabled to set at naught the Parliamentary enactment of 1870, constituting the Statutory Civil Service. The Secretary of State for India is an officer under

the British Parliament, and the Parliament should be informed that their own enactment has been defied by their servant. But no agitation can be made by dead men, and it still remains to see whether the natives are dead or alive.

36. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Jamalpur in the Monghyr district says that a grogshop has been recently re-established in Nayagaon, in the very heart of the village, inhabited mostly by Bengali and Hindustani gentlemen.

The shop is situated near a well, from which women of respectable families draw water, and their feelings at the sight of the immoralities which are usually practised within the four walls of a grogshop can be better imagined than described. The example of the shop is also not calculated to have a very healthy moral effect on the children of the village. The villagers accordingly submitted a petition to the Deputy Collector of Monghyr, Babu Jagamohan Bhattacharya. The Deputy Collector inspected the situation of the shop, but nothing more has since been heard about the matter. There is a distinct order of Government that liquor-shops should not be established in market places or in the centre of populous villages. But this order is in practice often violated. It is hoped Sir Charles Elliott, sincere man as he is, will see that the Government order is strictly carried out in every instance.

SANJIVANI,
June 11th, 1892.

37. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 12th June, refers to the new rules for the employment of apprentices in the Bengal Secretariat offices, and observes as follows:—

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 12th, 1892.

Those who have successfully passed the Secretariat clerkship examinations will have the first claim to a vacancy among apprentices. Those who have not passed any such examination will be employed as apprentices on the results of University examinations. But examination results will be required only for natives who must have passed the F.A. and the B.A. examinations in order to qualify themselves for the lower and the upper divisions of apprenticeship respectively. But Europeans or Eurasians will be only required to produce certificates of education equivalent to the University examinations respectively. This difference in the two requirements means that Government wants to show greater favour to Europeans and Eurasians than to the natives. It is the object of Government generally to make a distinction between natives and non-natives, and so a distinction must be made between them in connection with apprenticeships too!

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

38. In continuation of its article on the *Chaukidari Act Amendment Bill* (see Report on Native Papers for 11th June, paragraph 48), the *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 8th June, says:—

HINDU RANJIKA,
June 8th, 1892.

We should not have thought of combating Mr. Cotton, if he had only said that the Government is determined to bring the village chaukidar under its control, because he ought to be brought under such control. For, it would be nothing short of presumption on the part of an Indian subject to discuss the propriety, or otherwise, of any measure which Government thinks it fit to adopt. But Mr. Cotton has not followed a straightforward course, and that is why we feel ourselves under the necessity of exposing the fallacies in his speech.

Mr. Cotton's comparing India with England is a most gratuitous proceeding, for there is no analogy whatever between the system of Government obtaining in India, and that obtaining in England. England, to all practical intents and purposes, enjoys a democratic form of Government, while the Government of India is distinctly monarchical in character. A high officer of Government in England would hardly dare to commit on the most insignificant subject of Her Majesty the act of oppression which a village chaukidar in India would with perfect impunity commit on any of Her Majesty's Indian subjects. Can it be, therefore, right or reasonable to compare India with England? But admitting, for argument's sake, that such a comparison is proper, is it true, that the village police in England is, as Mr. Cotton says, under the direct control of the English Government? Previous to the year 1888, all Justices of the Peace were nominated by the Lord Lieutenant and appointed by the Lord Chancellor. And

those Justices were chosen entirely from among the villagers; and the village police were appointed by the village punchayets in consultation with those Justices. But since the year 1888, all the powers of the village punchayet have been transferred to the County Councils, District Boards or Local Boards, the members of which are elected by the people themselves. These bodies have the control of the village police, collect the pay of the police from the people, and appoint the village police. And will Mr. Cotton still insist in saying that the village police in England are under the direct control of the English Government? It seems Mr. Cotton wants to throw dust in the eyes of the Indian people, considering them, as he apparently does, as men of very "low calibre." But this has neither grieved nor astonished us, for this has been done in the name of the Government. But we really feel astonished that he should have thus taken it into his head to mislead us so soon after his accession to the Chief Secretary's *guddi*.

But if Government takes upon itself the control of the village police, why should it saddle the people with the salary of the chaukidar? It was only the other day that Sir Ashley Eden relieved all municipalities of the expenses of the police, because he thought that it was unjust to charge those expenses to them. Why should the Government then now saddle the village people with the same expenses? Government has ceased to provide the medical requirements of the people, and is gradually withdrawing itself from the work of education, and has already imposed the road cess and public works cess for local improvements, and is it now its intention to saddle the people with a police cess?

After the Bill is passed, the only work left to the punchayets will be the assessment and collection of the chaukidari tax. But what will be their reward for taking all that trouble? Nothing, nothing but the contumely of the people. How will people come flocking in to secure such enviable posts? And Government will punish him, who, being chosen a punchayet, shall refuse to act as such!

Government deprived the zamindars of all control over the village chaukidar by creating the punchayets, and vesting in them all powers relating to the chaukidar. And now it has resolved upon supplanting the punchayet by taking the control of the chaukidars in its own hands. Sir Charles Elliott should give up this idea of police centralisation, for police centralisation will only serve to place great powers of oppression in the hands of the chaukidars, without adding a whit to the security of the villagers.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 12th, 1892.

39. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 12th June, says that, according to the *Englishman* newspaper, the Chaukidari Act Amendment Bill will not be discussed in 2nd July's meeting of the Bengal Council. Having regard to the opposition against the measure on all sides, even a hasty ruler like Sir Charles Elliott ought to make some delay in the matter.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

PRAKRITI,
June 11th, 1892.

40. The *Prakriti*, of the 11th June, thus continues its remarks on Umakant Babu's administration of Tippera:—

Tippera under Babu Umakant's administration. It is clear from the Administration Report of Tippera for 1890-91 that the faults of its present minister, Babu Umakant Das, will some day encompass the downfall of the State. Umakant Babu's acts and measures do not show that he understands zamindari affairs. There are men in the Maharaja's service well versed in those affairs, but Umakant Babu's recklessness seems to stand in the way of their giving proof of their ability in zamindari management. The Administration Report for 1890-91 shows that it was written by Umakant Babu with the sole object of giving a magnified idea of his own abilities. This report, which is the first one of its kind relating to Tippera, shows that improvement in the administration of that State commenced before Umakant Babu's appointment; but Umakant Babu has, nevertheless, made no reference to his subordinates anywhere in the course of his report. The statement in the report that Umakant Babu began his administration with a cash balance of Rs. 27,022-0-6 in the Treasury shows that the condition of the State was not bad before his appointment. He says that under his administration the revenue of the State has increased by Rs. 34,000. But as this

increase is due to the sale of sâl trees, and as sâl forests were protected by his predecessors in the office of Dewan since 1288 B.E., the credit of increasing the revenue properly belongs, not to him, but to his predecessors. Again, it is stated in the report that, during the year under review, debts to the extent of Rs. 2,71,000 have been paid off. But this is not a correct statement. Deducting from the above sum Rs. 27,000 representing the treasury balance with which the new administration started, and Rs. 9,000 representing the proceeds of the sale of sâl trees, Rs. 2,35,000 is the amount of debt which has been actually liquidated. Out of this sum Rs. 96,000 represents the amount of miscellaneous debts, which have been paid off. Now the question is—has that sum been actually paid out of the treasury or debts to that extent have been simply struck off from the creditors' books? It has always been the practice of the Tippera Raj to make large deductions from creditors' bills at the time of payment. Thus, it often happened that by the actual payment of Rs. 5,000, the State managed to clear off a debt which was represented in the creditors' books by Rs. 50,000. And something of this kind must have happened in the matter of paying off debts to the extent of Rs. 96,000. As the writer pointed out in his last article on the subject (see Report on Native Papers, for week ending 11th June 1892, paragraph 51) it is impossible for the Maharaja to pay off in any year more than one lakh of his debts. And not even one lakh can be paid up without difficulty. The expenditure of the State should be curtailed and the zamindari of the Maharaja should be put in order. Having regard to the financial condition of the State, it has been very proper for Umakant Babu to arrange for a cadastral survey of Tippera. The writer was under the impression that it was at the instance of Government that Umakanta Babu had entered upon the survey; but he now sees that it was Umakant Babu himself who was the prime mover in the affair. Some years ago some of the parganas of His Highness' zamindari were surveyed under the Bengal Tenancy Act. And now that the whole of the Maharaja's zamindari will be surveyed, the money spent in previous surveys will have been thrown away.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

41. The *Shokh* (a new paper), of the 21st May, says that distress prevails in Darbhanga and in Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur, and the health of the former place is not good.

SHOKH,
May 21st, 1892.

42. The *Bihar Bandhu*, of the 2nd June, says that much of the distress which just now prevails will, no doubt, be relieved if the rules laid down by Government in regard to famine relief are fully carried out, and the Bengal officers do not imitate the example of their Madras brethren of suppressing facts relating to the distress. But Government must not judge of the extent and magnitude of the distress from the numbers that come to the relief works, for most people will stay away from these so long as they can hold out, owing to the inadequacy of the remunerations fixed.

BEHAR BANDHU,
June 2nd, 1892.

43. The *Navayuga*, of the 9th June, has the following on the subject of distress in Bihâr:—

NAVAYUGA,
June 9th, 1892.

Distress in Bihâr. Is it still to be believed that there is no famine in Bihâr? The poor people there are living on herbs and leaves of trees. The number of beggars is increasing; men and women are walking about, almost naked; women of respectable families are being supplied with cotton, for the propose of spinning it into thread, and thereby making their livelihood. Are not these signs of distress in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor?

44. Referring to Mr. Haegert's letter, describing the distress prevailing in the Sonthal Parganas, the *Banganivasi*, of the 10th June, says that Sir Charles Elliott will now see that the alarm raised by the native press about distress was not unfounded. His Honour will also see that *kesur*, of which he recently made so much, will not avail to ward off the impending danger. It is clear from the Government's attitude of indifference in this matter that the people will not act wisely if they rely upon it for relief of distress. The Government of India is not acting in a statesmanlike manner in squandering the famine fund on the North-Western frontier, and then letting the people starve in times of famine. The writer advises the people to open famine relief funds among themselves.

BANGANIVASI,
June 10th, 1892.

PRAKRITI,
June 11th, 1892.

45. The *Prakriti*, of the 11th June, has the following in the course of an article entitled "Terrible News:"—

"Famine has reached its highest severity, and people have begun to die of starvation; and what more can happen? O civilised English Raj, we have heard that the death of a man from starvation, in your own country, is regarded as an event carrying with it indelible disgrace; it creates a sensation not only in Europe, but in every part of the world, and makes all Englishmen half-dead with shame, sorrow, and remorse. Why, then, this unkindness to the unfortunate people of India? Is it because the Indians are a subject and down trodden people? Hear the wail of distress that has now been raised in every part of India! Hear the cries, which people in one corner of Bengal, starving and famished, and almost on the point of death, are uttering in a feeble but heart-rending voice! See how people, unable to satisfy their hunger, are dying tormenting deaths! O all-powerful Englishmen, will this disgrace that has sat upon your name be ever effaced? Suppose that all that we say—all that the native papers say, is false and over-coloured; but are the heart-rending accounts of famine, which that preacher of religion, that excellent Christian gentleman, Rev. Mr. Haegert, is publishing in the Anglo-Indian newspapers, also false? The reverend gentleman has published his name and address, and Government can, if it likes, enquire into the truth of his statements." Mr. Haegert's description of the distress in the Sonthal Parganas is next given, and the following remarks are made:—What a deplorable condition this! The writer is glad to learn that the Reverend Mr. Haegert is doing his best to relieve the distress of these famished people. The reverend gentleman has also asked aid of the public, and the public ought to respond to his appeal. The rich and influential men of the country ought not to remain indifferent in the matter, for indifference on their part at such a time will cast discredit on the name of their countrymen.

SANJIVANI,
June 11th, 1892.

46. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th June, says that the picture of distress in the Sonthal Parganas given in the *Statesman* newspaper by the Reverend Mr. Haegert is a picture drawn by a European Christian Missionary. Will Sir Charles Elliott, therefore, take prompt measures to alleviate the distress? For *kesur* does not grow in the Sonthal Parganas, and men cannot live long on leaves of trees.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 13th, 1892.

47. The *Som Prakash*, of the 13th June, is astonished to learn that the principal officers of Government in Orissa have advised the people suffering from famine in that province to seek help from the zamindars. Cannot they themselves give them some aid? If they cannot, why do they not ask Government to give aid? The public will be surprised to learn that the big officials in Orissa do not believe in the existence of a famine in that province. They have seen peasant girls in Orissa wearing gold ornaments and new *saris*, and they will not therefore admit that there is distress in the province. But, as the *Indian Mirror* rightly says, what have been taken for gold ornaments are, in reality, ornaments of brass and bell metal; and *sari*, which has been taken to mean plenty, is nothing more than coarse home-made stuff. The Commissioner of Orissa is asked to institute enquiries into the matter, and to arrange for giving timely aid to the needy.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
June 4th, 1892.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

48. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide*, of the 4th June, thanks Government for its pardoning Prince Birjis Kader, son of the late Nawab of Oudh. Government has not yet come to a decision regarding his pension.

CHARUVARTA,
June 6th, 1892.

49. The *Charuvarta*, of the 6th June, says that people do not now dig tanks as they used to do before. And the old tanks gradually filling up have left the people in distress for want of water. The zamindars cannot be blamed for not digging tanks. The law does not permit them to receive anything from their tenants in excess of the rent; and their necessary subscriptions and contributions to public funds, &c., leave them little, after their own household expenditure, to devote to the excavation of tanks. In this connection, the writer cannot refrain from saying that the Government's style of conferring titles has set a discount on the work of excavation of tanks by zamindars and other wealthy people. Payment of subscriptions to public funds is now considered the only means

of gaining the favour of Government, and until this idea is dispelled, and Government makes it a point to recognise in a special manner the charities of those that devote their money to the excavation of tanks, rich men will hardly give their attention to the question of the removal of the distress of their countrymen from scarcity of water. Western education and western law have brought in their train evils which were unknown to the people before. Three or four years ago a Brahman of Kanthbhag Baligaon in the Munshiganj subdivision of the Dacca district, having on his own account re-excavated a tank, the right of ownership to which belonged to several co-sharers, was rendered liable for damages by a civil court decree at the instance of the other sharers who were unwilling to re-excavate. Under these circumstances, the writer fully approves of the scheme proposed by the *Dainik* for supplying the mufassal with water. If the Municipalities, the District Boards, the Government, and the mass of the people co-operate in the matter, the writer is confident that the scheme will succeed.

Popular discontent in India.

50. The *Sahachar*, of the 8th June, writes as follows :—

SAHACHAR,
June 8th, 1892.

The Anglo-Indian rulers of India say that there is no discontent in the country, and that it is only a few educated natives, who have been unsuccessful in obtaining Government service, that go on airing their grievances. But this is not true. It is the opinion of the public here that the present administrative system is not suited to the country, and that the taxation under that system has become very heavy, as Anglo-Indians themselves admit. Again, both natives and Anglo-Indians say that Government spends its money, not in improving the internal condition of the country, but in erecting unnecessary frontier forts and railways and on petty wars. And over and above all this, it is playing at hide-and-seek with the natives in the matter of their employment in the public service. But does not all this furnish sufficient ground for discontent? There is certainly no discontent in the country, if by discontent is meant attempting to subvert the Empire or unfurling the flag of rebellion. Nay, the people of this country do not even think of doing any such thing. It is, nevertheless, a fact that the Indians are not happy under the English rule. They are becoming poorer every day, and are being cheated of their dues in consequence of the employment of worthless Europeans on fat salaries. When the natives try to enter the Government service, they are rebuked for their partiality for that service. But Government itself is trying to get poor Europeans into its service, and is importing from England sons of big officials, possessing very moderate abilities, and employing them in the public service. Government's conduct in this matter is like that of the faithless Bengali wife who comforted her stupid husband by telling him that he was the best of husbands for eating *panta* (cold) rice, whilst she, a hapless woman, might die any day for eating hot meals. Thus only *panta* is served out to natives, while all hot meals are reserved for worthless and ignorant Europeans. When a European is taken into Government service, he is not taxed with being partial for that service.

The late Mr. Worsley.

51. The *Saraswat Patra*, of the 11th June, notices in black border the death of Mr. Worsley.

SARASWAT PATRA,
June 11th, 1892.

52. The *Sanjivani*, of the 11th June, says that the Conference which will shortly sit at Belvedere will consider the question of water-supply, not only within municipal

SANJIVANI,
June 11th, 1892.

The water-supply question. areas near Calcutta, but throughout the province. If Sir Charles Elliott can devise a good scheme for supplying the whole province with good water, he will earn the lasting gratitude of the Bengalis. The people of Bengal will not even grudge the imposition of a water-tax if water can be had by paying such a tax. First of all, however, the District Boards should do their best with the means at their disposal to excavate tanks in large numbers within their respective jurisdictions; and then, if their funds fail, a tax may be imposed, principally upon rich people.

53. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has refused to accept Dr. Hilson's opinion that the improved sanitation of Calcutta has greatly diminished cholera mortality in the metropolis. His Honour's theory

SANJIVANI.

Sir Charles Elliott on cholera epidemics.

is that cholera germs float in the air, and a cholera epidemic may break out in a place having the best sanitary arrangements. It seems, therefore, that Sir Charles Elliott defies medical men even in matters medical. His Honour's theory is one that has been long exploded, but he and his favourite Secretary are perhaps not aware of the fact. Sir Charles Elliott may have another reason for not accepting Dr. Hilson's view, and that is that its acceptance may entail on the Government the necessity of spending money in sanitary improvements in localities where cholera and other diseases frequently break out.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 12th, 1892.

54. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 12th June, notices with extreme regret the death of Mr. Worsley, who was recently elevated to the Commissionership of Patna. The Civil Service

does not possess another man so righteous as the late Mr. Worsley.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 12th, 1892.

55. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 12th June, admits with the *Dacca Prakash* newspaper that it is unquestionably the duty of the District Boards to spend a portion

of their allotments of the public works cess on the construction and re-excavation of tanks. And there are District Boards which spend something on this head, but there are none which spend for the purpose anything like the sum which they ought to spend. The District Boards have a variety of duties to perform. They are often asked to do things which ought to be done by Government itself. Famine is now of frequent occurrence in the country, and the Boards are asked to spend money on famine relief, for Government is unwilling to spend money in that way. It helps the District Boards in their work of famine relief only when the Boards find themselves unable to cope with distress. But it is not the imperative duty of the District Boards to spend money on famine relief, nor is it just that the proceeds of the public works cess and the road cess should be spent on any other than their legitimate objects. Principles of justice and fair play are, however, systematically set at naught by Government when the question is one of observing them in practice. What is now known as the income-tax was imposed under the name of the Imperial license-tax with the object of making a famine fund. But its proceeds were spent, and are being spent even now, for a very different purpose. The fact is that in this country Government does what it likes, and the protests of the people have never, in the slightest degree, influenced its conduct, and will never do so. This being the case, the Indians have to put up in silence with every act of the officials of Government. Government created Municipalities and District Boards with the object of lightening the strain on its treasury. As there was no means of increasing its *khas* revenue, it introduced self-government into the country with the object of supplementing that revenue. The people of this country have no right to compel Government to do anything, nor do their protests influence Government's conduct. This is seen by everybody, and ought to be seen by the *Dacca Prakash*. The proposal of the *Dacca Prakash* and of the *Amritá Bazar Patrika* to compel Government to spend the proceeds of the public works cess on the excavation of tanks has therefore astounded the writer. The time is not come, nor is there any hope that the time will ever come, when the people of this country will be able to compel Government in any matter. And as the suffering from water-scarcity has become unbearable, some scheme, which may be considered feasible, ought to be devised. So the public ought to see that a water-supply fund is established without delay. And no man who loves his country ought to thwart the scheme. The water-scarcity will never be removed if the matter is left to be dealt with by Government or the District Board. On the other hand, if a water-supply fund is established by the people, Government is sure to come forward with help, and may even compel the District Boards to help. Possibly Government may, in that case, take the work of removing the water-scarcity in its own hands, relying for aid on the water-supply fund and the District Boards. Government can do much good simply by taking a little interest in this matter. Lady Dufferin, for instance, never asked anyone to subscribe to her fund, and yet subscriptions are pouring into her fund. So if Lady Lansdowne takes a little interest in this question of a water-supply fund, crores of rupees may be subscribed in no time. And there can be no doubt that a water-supply fund is a hundred times more needful than the Lady Dufferin Fund.

56. The *Hitakari*, of the 13th June, says that a large *wuqf* property is attached to Shahan Shah Saheb's *dargah* in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, the income of which, though the estates are utterly mismanaged,

HITAKARI,
June 13th, 1892.

Management of a *wuqf* property in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district.

is about eight thousand rupees per annum. The property was left by the saint Shahan Shah for charitable purposes, and its management was made over to the owner of the Atia zamindari. Now, in course of time, the latter zamindari having been divided and subdivided among a large number of zamindars, both Hindu and Mussulman, the *matwalliship* of the *dargah* property was claimed by each, according to his share of the Atia zamindari, and the *matwalliship* accordingly has come to be divided among all the zamindars who have a share in the Atia estate. This distribution of the *wuqf* property has frustrated the object for which it was originally created, for most of the *matwallis* have appropriated their share of the *wuqf* to their private use. Besides, the estate of the Shah consisted of movable property of considerable value, all of which seem, however, to have disappeared. It is hoped Government will make a sifting enquiry into the management of the property, and make over the entire *wuqf* to the *matwalliship* of one trustworthy Muhammadan, who will be responsible for its management and for the expenditure of its income on those benevolent purposes for which the *wuqf* was constituted.

The late Mr. Worsley.

57. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 13th June, notices with regret the death of Mr. Worsley.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 13th, 1892.

58. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 14th June, says that it is believed in certain quarters that Government has invented a sort of taxation in its system of conferring titles. And

SULABH DAINIK,
June 14th, 1892.

Titles for prices.

titles have really come to get a very bad name now-a-days. Formerly titles were the reward of good deeds, but now they mean only recognition of wealth. But why does not Government improve its present title system by attaching fixed values to its titles? Titles for fixed prices will bring the Government a good revenue. And titles for prices would be a nice trade for the English to engage in, for their very Empire in India sprang from trade, and they look upon trade as the secret of their greatness. The titles may be priced as follows:—

	Rs.
K. C. S. I.	1,00,000
C. S. I.	25,000
Raja	25,000
Rai Bahadur	5,000
Khan Bahadur	5,000

But Government may reserve to itself the option of raising or lowering these prices according to demand.

59. In commenting on Mr. Mackay's speech on the scope and aims of the Indian Currency Association, the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 16th June, says that, according to Mr. Mackay, the Government of India

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 16th, 1892.

Mr. Mackay on the Indian currency question.

should have it in its power to fix the value of the rupee, and further on that when the value has gradually risen from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. or even higher, it will remain stationary. We, however, do not expect so much. Considering that in England there was a sudden fall in the value of the rupee, there is nothing to show that the same thing will not occur in India. Once introduce a gold currency in India, and there will be an appreciation in the price of gold, and a corresponding depreciation in the price of silver, and consequently the value of the rupee will not remain fixed. The price of the rupee will then fluctuate. It may be sometimes ten annas, sometimes twelve annas, and sometimes thirteen annas, and so on. It is easy to see what difficulties this uncertainty will cause to the Indians. Mr. Mackay has attempted to discredit those who ascribe the prosperity of England to her use of a gold currency by referring to their unwillingness to grant that privilege to India. But what would he say if those gentlemen had the candour to tell him that the true reason why they are unwilling to see India have a gold currency is that England will be a gainer by her gold currency only so long as India has a silver currency, and that the adoption of a gold currency by India will mean England's loss?

Referring to the solution of the currency question as given in the *Times* newspaper, Mr. Mackay says that if Government accepts that solution, and pays half the salary of its European officers in silver at the rate of 1s. 8d. the rupee, it will have to incur an additional loss of one crore and twenty-seven lakhs of rupees every year on exchange. Where is this money to come from? The money will doubtless be found by imposing additional taxation on the Indians. Mr. Mackay does not approve of that course, and therefore justifies the necessity of an Association like that of which he is the President for the purpose of solving the exchange difficulty. He asks the Indians to support the views of the Association, but opposed as they are to the idea of introducing a gold currency in this country, they cannot, and will not, join that body or lend it their support.

URIYA PAPERS.

60. The death of Babu Kisori Mohan Das, an influential zamindar of the Balasore district, is mourned by all the native papers of Orissa for the week under report.

61. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* and the *Samvadvahika*, of the 19th May, complain of want of drinking water in the Balasore district, and give a harrowing description of the inconveniences to which the poor natives of the district are subjected on that account. The *Utkaldipika*, of the 21st May, however, reports a few showers of rain in the interior of the Cuttack district.

62. A correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasamvad*, of the 18th May, suggests to the authorities concerned the construction of a road from Soro to Pathuripenth in the Balasore district, and points out that such a road is required in the interests of the trade in stone-manufacture.

63. The Jajpur correspondent of the *Utkaldipika*, of the 21st May, reports that some of the amins and others of the Settlement Department working in the Jajpur sub-division exacted money and things illegally from zamindars and raiyats, and on being prosecuted criminally were convicted and punished. The correspondent brings the matter to the notice of the higher Settlement Officers, and suggests that steps may be taken to remove such complaints in future.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 18th June 1892.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 18th, 1892.
SAMVADVARIKA,
May 19th, 1892.
UTKALDIPIKA,
May 21st, 1892.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 18th, 1892.

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 21st, 1892.